

Miki Sugiura, Hosei University / University of Warwick. John Styles, Victoria and Albert Museum. Giorgio Riello, University of Warwick. Luca Molà, University of Warwick. Miki Iida, Senshu University. Nao Tsunoda, Toyo University. Izumi Takeda, Seijo University. Philip A Sykas, Manchester Metropolitan University. Aglaia de Angeli, Queen's University Belfast. Alexis Schwarzenbach, Hochschule Luzern. Naoko Inoue, Josai University. Reggie Lee Blaszczyk, University of Leeds.

Pre-Registration: info@lccg.tokyo

<http://lccg.tokyo/events/index.html#20190315sp>

<https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/history/ghcc/research/globalisationofdress>

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Linking Cloth-Clothing Globally Symposium

9:00 - 17:00 Friday 15th and 9:00 - 13:00 Saturday 16th March 2019
University of Warwick in Venice, Palazzo Pesaro Papafava, Venice, Italy

Textiles and Materiality

Mixing Fibres between East and West, 16th-20th Centuries

Symposium

Textiles and Materiality

Mixing Fibres between East and West, 16th-20th Centuries

Seminar Room 2, The University of Warwick in Venice

Palazzo Pesaro Papafava, Cannaregio 3764, 30121 Venezia, Italia

15th-16th March, 2019. 15th, 9:00-17:00 / 16th, 9:00-13:00

Organized by Miki Sugiura, John Styles and Giorgio Riello

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Textiles has been written by fibre: the histories of silk, linen, cotton, ramie and synthetic fibres have been dealt separately. Their regional as well as inter-regional technological and organizational developments have been considered mostly within a specific fibre framework. However, today's mixing of fibres casts doubts as to whether this "fibre-by-fibre" approach is the right one for writing a history of textiles. Most textiles are in no sense "pure", but a mixture: not only different fibres were mixed, but new types of yarns were constantly created within a fibre to mix and make new types of cloth. When did it all start? Many points to the early twentieth century, when synthetic fibres were first developed. Yet, the mixing various quality of fibres and materials has a much longer history.

While the mixing of different qualities of fibres was a common and established practice in the textile industry, the introduction of new fibres to a region brought new challenges and opportunities. Situated at the fringes of Eurasian continent, Western Europe and East Asia experienced a major transformation in the production of cloth from switching from two natural fibres to four during the sixteenth to the twentieth centuries. The increased availability of affordable and high-quality silk fibres by the sixteenth century, as well as broader access to cotton fibre since seventeenth century accelerated the mixing practice in both regions. Mixing practices lie at the core of the expansion of consumable fashion products. The rise of mixed fabrics and products such as fustians, laces, stockings and ribbons were the result of mixing different qualities of fibre. Technological and product innovations helped the integration of these fibres. Mixing practices entered to yet another stage when Western European wool fibre, mechanically spun cotton and silk yarns were introduced to East Asia. These regions in turn became major exporters of silk and cotton products. In the midst of the competition and market diversification, both regions transited into leading producers of synthetics in the twentieth century, which intensified mixing practices even further. The conference will analyse these processes by focusing mainly on Italy, France, Britain, The Netherlands, the Ottoman Empire, Japan and China.

We welcome all scholars and researchers interested in the topic. **Pre-registration is required by 27th February, 2019, for lunch.** For registration and information, please contact info@lccg.tokyo, ASAP. Lunch and refreshments will be provided for those who have registered.

Program

15th March, 2019

- 9:00 Welcome Coffee/Tea
- 9:15-9:30 **Miki Sugiura, John Styles and Giorgio Riello**, Opening Remarks
- 9:30-10:50 Chair: Naoko Inoue
- 9:30-10:10 **Luca Molà** (University of Warwick), Mixed fabrics in Venice, *tba*
- 10:10-10:50 **Nao Tsunoda** (Toyo University), Textile beyond Fibers: Laces in the 17th-19th Centuries
- 10:50-11:05 Coffee Break
- 11:05- 12:30 Chair: Izumi Takeda
- 11:05-11:45 **Giorgio Riello** (University of Warwick), Textile Spheres and Mixing Fibres
- 11:45-12:30 **John Styles** (Victoria and Albert Museum), Mixing Yarns in Early Modern Europe
- 12:30-14:00 Lunch
- 14:00-15:30 Chair: Alexis Schwarzenbach
- 14:00-14:40 **Izumi Takeda** (Seijo University), Cotton and Linen. An Epistemological Approach
- 14:40-15:20 **Philip A Sykas** (Manchester Metropolitan University), *tba*
- 15:20-15:40 Coffee Break
- 15:40-17:00 Chair: Giorgio Riello
- 15:40-16:20 **Miki Sugiura** (Hosei University), Transformation of Mixed Fibre Weave Regions in Japan, c. 1750-1900
- 16:20-17:00 **Aglaia de Angeli** (Queen's University Belfast), Chinese Silk and the Italian Modern Industrial Market, 1850-1907
- 19:00- Conference Dinner

16th March, 2019

- 9:00 Welcome Coffee/Tea
- 9:30-11:30 Chair: John Styles
- 9:30-10:10 **Alexis Schwarzenbach** (Hochschule Luzern), From Natural to Man Made. Fibre change in the European Silk Industry, ca. 1860-1930
- 10:10-10:50 **Naoko Inoue** (Josai University), Redefining Rayon in 20th-Century Europe, U.S. and Japan: Towards Unlimited Varieties of Mixing
- 10:50-11:30 **Reggie Blaszczyk** (University of Leeds), Creating the Mad Man Look: American Fiber Giants and the Rise of Wash-and-Wear and Permanent Press in the Postwar Era
- 11:30-11:45 Coffee Break
- 11:45-13:00 Chair: Miki Sugiura, John Styles and Giorgio Riello
Final Discussion & Closing Remarks

The conference is an international collaboration between Japanese and European Historians (British/Italian/Swiss Historians) built up on previous collaborative projects held by the research platform LCCG (Linking Cloth-Clothing Globally <http://www.lccg.tokyo/>) and GHC (Global History Collaborative <http://www.coretocore.ioc.u-tokyo.ac.jp/>) since 2015. Our major past events are listed below. The conference is funded by JSPS: Japan Society for Promotion of Science (Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research B), Global History and Culture Centre, University of Warwick and Leverhulme Trust, UK. We express our sincere gratitude to all the collaborators.

- LCCG Symposium: "Linking Cloth-Clothing Globally. 18-20th Century Mapping", The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, July and August 2015, supported by GHC (Global History Collaborative by Prof HANEDA Masashi)
- Global History Seminar with Prof John Styles: "Transcending Fibers and Regions: Global Manufacture and Circulation of "Cheaper" Cloth-Clothing, 17th-20th Centuries", EHESS, Paris, France March 2016, supported by Prof Alessandro Stanziani
- Pasold Foundation and University of Alberta Conference: "Dressing Global Bodies: Clothing Cultures, Politics and Economies in Globalizing Eras, c. 1600s-1900s", University of Alberta, Alberta, June 2016
- LCCG Workshop: "Swiss-Japan Global Silk-Links, 1800-", inviting Prof Alexis Schwarzenbach, Hosei University, Tokyo, October 2016
- SHOT (Society of History of Technology) panel: "Fashion and Technology: Consumers, Democratization of Luxury, and New Technologies" organized by Prof Emanuela Scarpellini (University of Milan), National University of Singapore, Singapore, June 2017
- LCCG Workshops with Prof John Styles: "Popularizing Fabrics and Clothing: Reconstructing What was What of Fabrics and Dress 1600-1930", Hosei University, Tokyo and Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto, June 2017
- WEHC (World Economic History Conference) Panel: "Popularizing Fabrics and Clothing 17th to 20th Centuries: Materiality, Value Formation and Technology", MIT, Boston, August 2018